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2 APPARATUS, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR ONLINE, MULTI-PARCEL, MULTI-
3 CARRIER, MULTI-SERVICE ENTERPRISE PARCEL SHIPPING MANAGEMENT

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5 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

6 The present invention provides a plurality of Enterprises with a single online user
7 interface with which the Enterprise can provide Enterprise Shippers, shipping origination users
8 and shipping intermediary users with an automated parcel management system for a plurality
9 of supported Carriers for a plurality of services. The present invention provides for the
10 hierarchical definition of users, including the establishment of at least one user for each
11 Enterprise as a Super-Administrator with the highest level of privileges and authority for the
12 Enterprise, and the identification of other users as Sub-Administrators, Desktop Users and
13 Shipping Station Users. The present invention also provides for the hierarchical definition of
14 organizational units within each Enterprise, including the definition of sites, groups within a
15 site, and users within a group. The present invention further provides for a distinct definition
16 of policies, privileges, and other types of specifications for each user level, each user, and each
17 organizational unit. The present invention applies the user and organizational policies,
18 privileges and other specifications as they apply to each particular user to drive the interactive
19 interface with each particular user and to provide among other things, shipping options,
20 shipping services, shipping rates, traveler and/or shipping label preparation, and shipment
21 tracking.

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